United Nations E/2015/NGO/30

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
1 June 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 5 (c)
High-level segment: annual ministerial review

Statement submitted by Korean Association for Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is being issued without formal editing.

15-08581 (E) 090615

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Statement

According to the global Sustainable Development report, the United Nations assesses that many activities for sustainable development actually is not conveyed to decision makers smoothly after the Rio+20 Conference. In other words, even if member countries of the United Nations voted for sustainable development goals in the United Nations General Assembly, it is quite difficult to be executed indeed by each country. The reason is that each country has its important affairs of state that should be addressed in the first place. Consequently, a smaller budget has always been allocated to the issues at the United Nations.

The Millennium Development Goals were a successful international development project, but they have been challenged by financial problems at the same time. Because the sustainable development goals cover much wider goals and issues than the Millennium Development Goals, it needs more financial assistance and each country should fully understand the reason why they need it.

There are two different approaches to achieve the sustainable development goals effectively. Firstly, recognition by the legislative body about sustainable development goals should be improved so that the government should have the active cooperation of its legislative body when they secure budget for the sustainable development goals.

Secondly, enterprises have to get actively involved. In order to induce the participation of enterprises, the practical benefits from participation can be an effective tool rather than just a suggestion for voluntary participation. Enterprises are influenced by the laws and policies of nations in many ways, so the network between the legislative body and enterprises to discuss the sustainable development goals together within framework can be a possible example. Korean association for supporting SDGs (ASD), a non-governmental organization with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, is a good alternative. At the Korean association for supporting SDGs (ASD), the cooperation between government and private sectors including system and implementation has been possible because the legislative body and enterprises have discussed together how to establish policy for the sustainable development goals. Therefore, if this initiative is applied to both developing and developed countries properly, the problems that we found with the Millennium Development Goals can be considerably resolved.